



CITY OF HOUSTON

Houston Department of Health and Human Services
Funded by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services

TO: **ALL AREA PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL (APAC) MEMBERS,
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES**

FROM: Marla Turner, Chairperson
Area Planning Advisory Council

DATE: October 20, 2009

SUBJECT: **AREA PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

Date:	Thursday, November 5, 2009
Place:	City of Houston Health Laboratories 1115 S. Braeswood Blvd., 1st Floor (Media Center) Houston, Tx. 77030
Phone:	(713)794-9006
Time:	9:00 am – 12:00 pm General Meeting

SPECIAL NOTE(S):

***All APAC members are urged to attend the sub-committee meetings after the General Meeting. If your committee is not meeting, you are invited to attend the meetings of any of the other sub-committees. Officers are obligated to ensure a replacement for the meeting if they cannot attend personally.**

If you are unable to attend this meeting, please contact the Area Agency on Aging at (713) 794-9006.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Harris County Area Agency on Aging will provide for reasonable accommodations for person attending APAC meetings. If you require reasonable accommodations or additional information, please contact the Harris County Area Agency on aging at (713) 794-9006.

xc: Deborah A. Moore, MBA
Division Manager for Area Agency on Aging

Encl: Agenda



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AREA AGENCY ON AGING AREA PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL

General Membership Meeting
Thursday, November 5, 2009

A G E N D A

- I. Call to order
- II. Introduction of guests and new members
- III. Approval of Agenda for November 5, 2009
- IV. Approval of Minutes for October 1, 2009
- V. Comments from Chair – Marla Turner
- VI. Comments from the Area Agency on Aging – Thelma Samuel
- VII. Highlight Area Agency on Aging Staff – Catherine Cook
- VIII. Presentation – **“Medicare Fraud Rampant in Harris County”**
Candice Twyman, LMSW-AP
Executive Director
Better Business Bureau Education Foundation
- IX. Standing Committee Reports (Written Reports)
 - A. Transportation – Lalita Sen**
 - B. Advocacy/Legislation – Immy Papadopoulos, Betty Streckfuss
 - C. Support Services – Marilyn Vargiu, Monica James
 - D. Housing – Mari Okabayashi, Marilu Ellis
 - E. Nutrition/SMOW – David Roberts
 - F. Education and Training – Adele Gorody, Carla Vigilante, Jimmie Matthews
 - G. Membership – Becky Tobias
- X. Unfinished Business
 - A. Update on H.o.M.E. Project for Thanksgiving
 - B. Discussion of APAC Holiday Project
 - C. Update on Adopt-A-Housing Project

XI. New Business

A. Presenting Nominating Committee Candidates

XII. Announcement(s)

***Note:** All announcements must be written on the provided form to the Chair prior to the announcement.

**** Note:** Subcommittee Chairs remember to bring written reports to monthly APAC meetings.

XIII. Adjournment to subcommittees.

XIV. Steering Committee will alternate its meeting date each month. The next meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, November 14, 2009 at 9:30am**. The location is **Corner Bakery Cafe, 2615 Southwest Freeway, Houston, 77098**.

**Area Planning Advisory Council
Harris County Area Agency on Aging**

**General Membership Meeting
November 5, 2009
City of Houston Health Laboratories**

Meeting was called to order by Mari Okabayashi at 9:07 AM.

Guests and new members were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves.

Agenda for November 5th meeting was approved.

Minutes of October 1, 2009 meeting were approved.

Comments from AAA

Thelma Samuels presented on behalf of AAA.

- Thelma expressed appreciation for the sympathy card from APAC on the occasion of her father's passing.
- Mrs. Moore is doing well. Still undergoing chemotherapy.
- Last Friday was a staff appreciation day for AAA. It is important to acknowledge the efforts of staff. Held a luncheon at the Houston Garden Center.
- Planning budget was submitted to DADS on Monday for the period of October 2010 – September 2011.
- AAA will undergo FEMA audit of first \$165,000 of Ike Relief funds drawn.
- FEMA-HUD Roundtable will take place at HCAC on November 9th on FEMA Housing Assistance. Program will expire in mid-March. Bringing partners together who may have housing resources. Covers both Harris and Galveston Counties. Will review what has been accomplished as well as future possibilities. Review of best practices.

Beverly Brownlow addressed the SMOW Project.

- Have received all necessary funds to provide 4,000 meals. Met \$21,000 goal. Have identified over 4,000 who need meals. Have identified most of the needed volunteers.
- A flyer on volunteering was distributed. Each person must bring two coolers and is asked to deliver a minimum of 5 and no more than 20 meals.
- This is the highest number that has ever been provided by the HoME Project. Interfaith Ministries will cover additional meals over 4,000. Distribution begins at 9:00 AM at North Stadium, Jewish Community Center, and Sunnyside.
- Precinct 3 will provide prescription discount cards for distribution with meals.
- Stimulus money update. \$493,399 was provided for congregate meals. Have distributed about \$350,000 thus far. \$242,906 is available for delivered meals.

- When funding ends, only a couple of grantees will likely have the capacity to continue delivery. Grantees will remind clients near the end of funding that the program was only temporary.
- Current grantees are being encouraged to seek additional sources of funding now, so that they may continue their program when stimulus funding ends.

AAA Staff Highlight – This month’s highlighted AAA staff member is Catherine Cook. She is a Counselor at AAA. She is a Certified Information and Referral Specialist for Aging. Started with AAA in 2006 in the Alzheimer’s Demonstration Project serving patients and caregivers. Now works in the Care Coordination Program, still specializing in Alzheimer’s/Dementia care.

Presentation – Today’s speaker was introduced by Adele Gorody. Today’s presentation by Candice Twyman, LMSW-AP, Executive Director of the Better Business Bureau Education Foundation, is entitled, “Medicare Fraud is Rampant in Harris County.”

Standing Committee Reports

Transportation Committee

- Lalita Sen reported that the largest issue since Rita and Ike is the lack of coordination of transportation for the region
- State has tried to create regions to handle coordination. This is Gulf Coast Region. Intra-County work has been first focus, with Inter-County work to come in future.
- Brochures are being created for each county detailing transportation service providers and eligibility requirements. Generally speaking, people over 60 qualify. Brochures will be released shortly.
- There is a good deal of concern about the reliability of Metro Lift. The service is oversubscribed. There has also been a change in management, and Transportation Committee has yet to meet the new management to provide input.
- Katy area has its own transportation resource brochure and a small supply is available at the back.
- Additional members are needed for the subcommittee.
- There will be a meeting on transportation issues in January at AARP.

Texas Silver Haired Legislature

- By email, Betty Streckfuss reported that two people testified on changing Texas demographics. Interim Director of DADS presented on available services. Copy of the report will be forwarded to membership by email.

Support Services Committee

- **Update on Adopt-A-Housing Project** – By email, Marilyn reported that a meeting was held last week training agencies interested in adopting a senior housing project. 23 have agreed to be adopted. 10 adopters. 1 MOU thus far,

JCC/Goldberg Towers. Morgan Steinberg is currently in process of matching. Some will adopt more than one project. Interested adopters should contact Morgan at Care for Elders.

Housing Committee

- Mari reported that the committee is currently working up a presentation on Smart Meters. Stimulus money may be used towards this project. Trying to educate on the ramifications of using a Smart Meter.
- Nancy McPherson will speak circa December 15th on citizens taking charge of protecting their own neighborhoods against crime and making their communities more livable. Will share information when date is pinned down.

Unfinished Business

- **Discussion of APAC Holiday Project** – Dora reported the Holiday Party is on December 3rd at the High Star location. This is a pot luck dinner. Meeting will start at 10:30, with lunch served around 11 AM. Everyone is being asked to bring a canned good to be donated to the Houston Food Bank.

New Business

- **Nominating Committee Candidates** – Carla Vigilante reported that the nominees are Mari Okabayashi, Chair; Marla Turner, Vice Chair; Beng Ho, Second Vice Chair; Walt McFadden, Secretary; Cathy Wright, Assistant Secretary. Voting will take place at next meeting.

Announcements

Mari Okabayashi announced that a training session on the 2010 Census will take place on November 7th from 9:30 AM to 3:15 PM at the TSU Sterling Student Life Center.

Lisa Hernandez announced that Harris County Precinct 2 has brought a supply of Veteran Resource Guides. These are the “old” guides. To order the yet-to-be-released revised version, contact United Way.

Barbara Sitzman announced that the City of Pasadena will hold its Annual Veteran’s Luncheon on November 6th from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM at Madison Jobe Senior Center. She also invited everyone to attend Madison Jobe’s Christmas Open House on December 18th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned to committees at 11:17 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter McFadden
Secretary